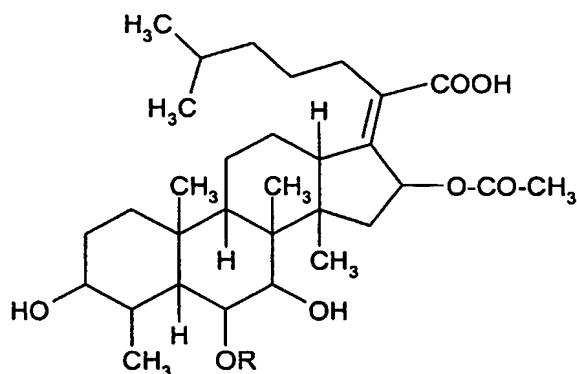


# Patent Claims

1. 2-(16-Acetoxy-3,7-dihydroxy-4,8,10,14-tetramethyl-6-[hydroxy, (C<sub>1-22</sub>)alkoxy or carbonyloxy]-hexadecahydro-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-ylidene)-6-methyl-heptanoic acids.

2. A compound of claim 1 which is of formula



wherein

R is hydrogen, CO-R<sub>1</sub> or (C<sub>1-22</sub>)alkyl, and

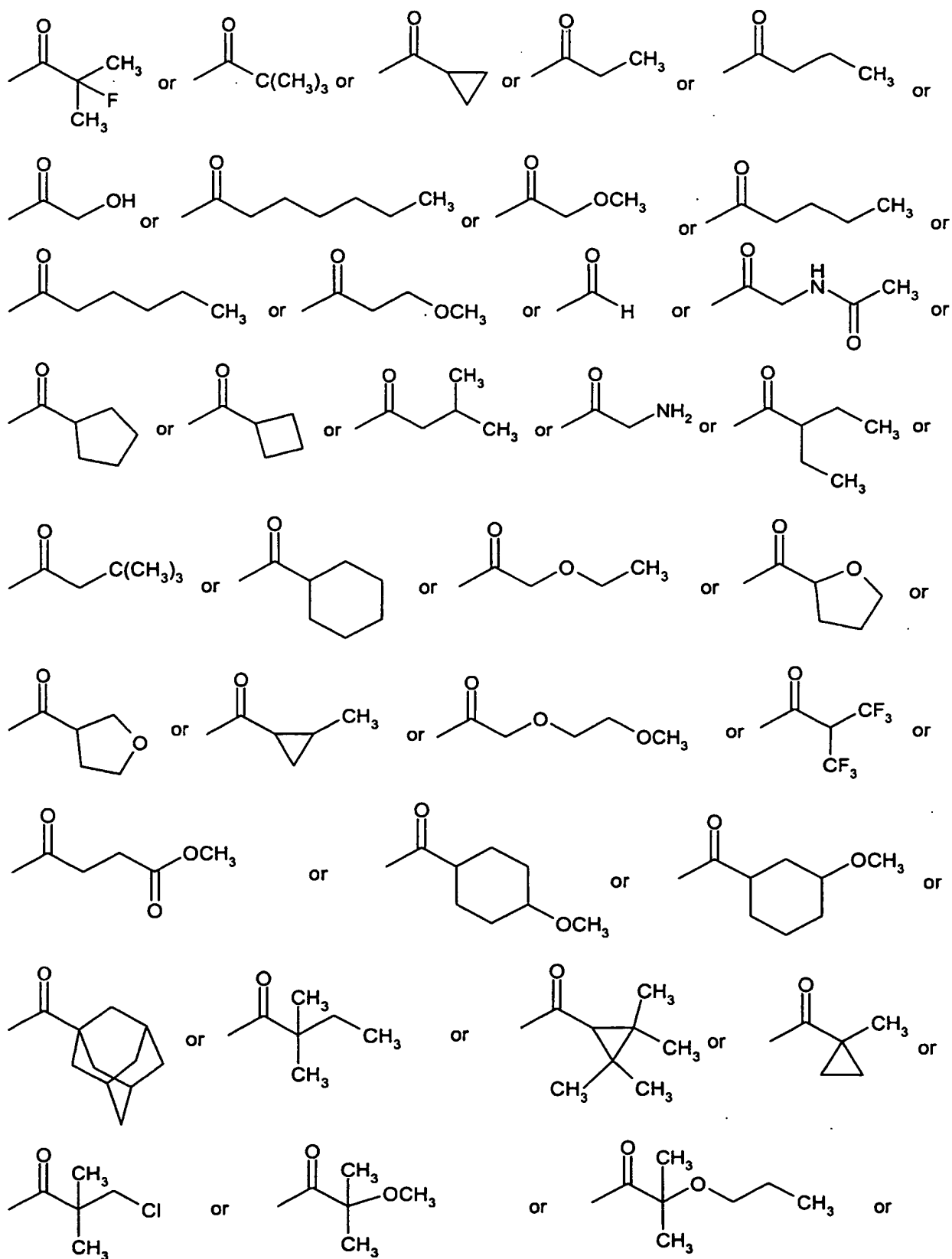
R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, (C<sub>1-22</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3-8</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl, amino(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, hydroxy(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl, hydrogencarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkoxy-carbonyl-(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6-18</sub>)aryl, heterocyclyl having 5 or 6 ring members and 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from S, O or N, or bridged (C<sub>7-12</sub>)cycloalkyl.

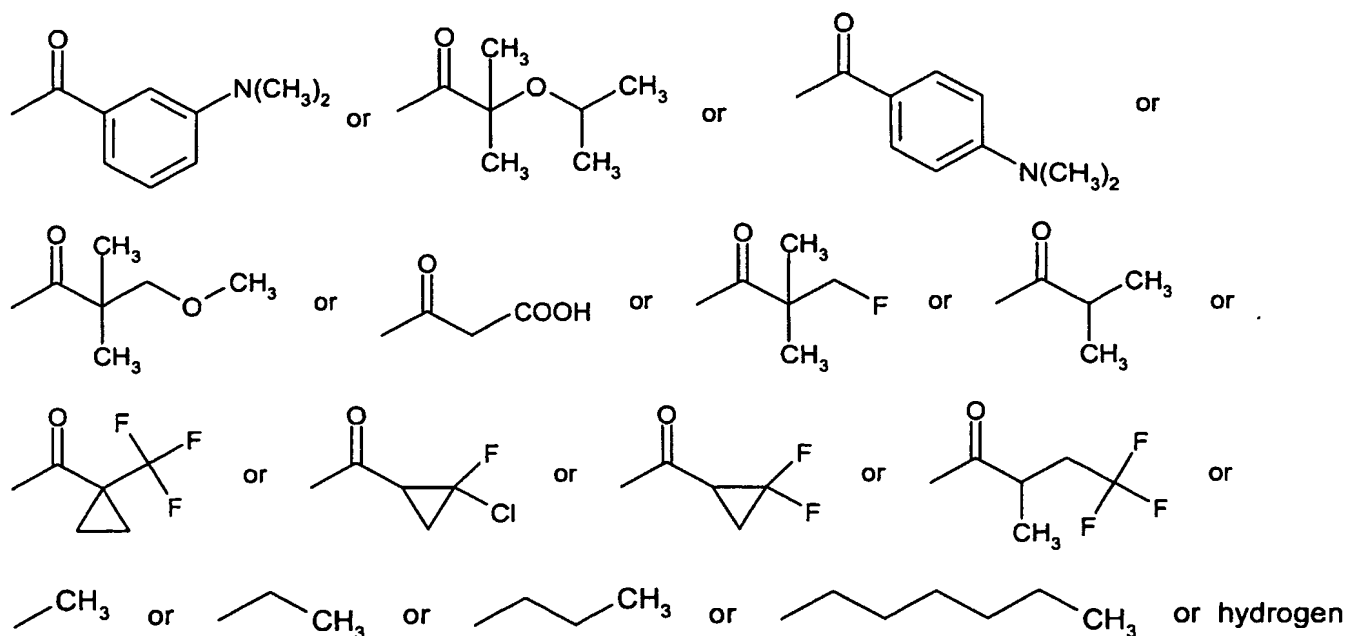
3. A compound of any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein

R is hydrogen, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, or CO-R<sub>1</sub>, and

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3-6</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>1-3</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1-3</sub>)alkyl, methoxy-(C<sub>1-2</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1-2</sub>)alkyl, aminomethyl, halo(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl comprising one or two halogen atoms, hydroxymethyl, hydroxycarbonylmethyl, methoxycarbonyl-(C<sub>1-2</sub>)alkyl, phenyl, tetrahydrofuranyl or adamantanyl.

4. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein R is a group of formula





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5. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 4 in the form of a salt.

6. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 5 for use as a pharmaceutical.

10 7. The use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 5 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of microbial diseases.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any one of claims 1 to 5 in association with at least one pharmaceutical excipient.

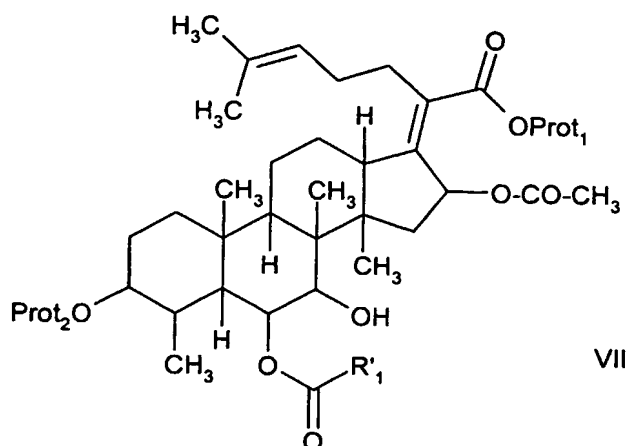
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9. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8, further comprising another pharmaceutically active agent.

10. A method of treatment of microbial diseases, which treatment comprises administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 5.

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11. A compound of formula



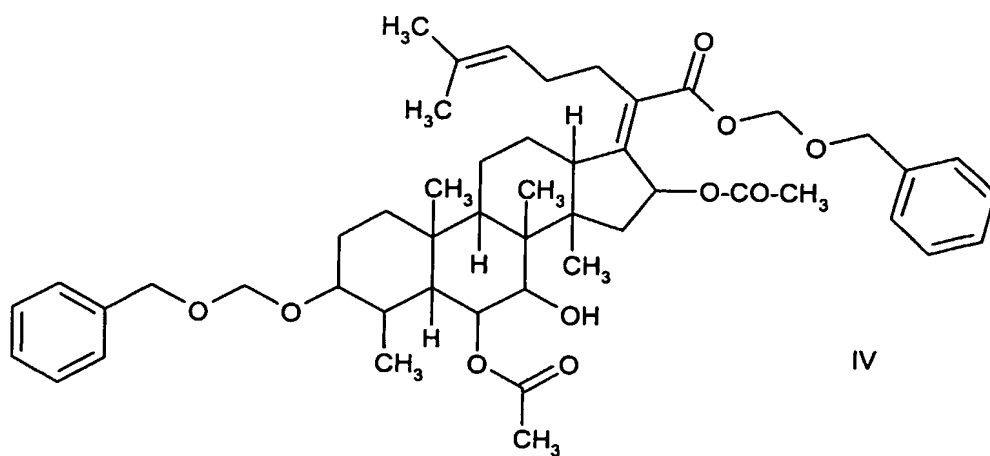
wherein

Prot<sub>1</sub> is a protecting group, and

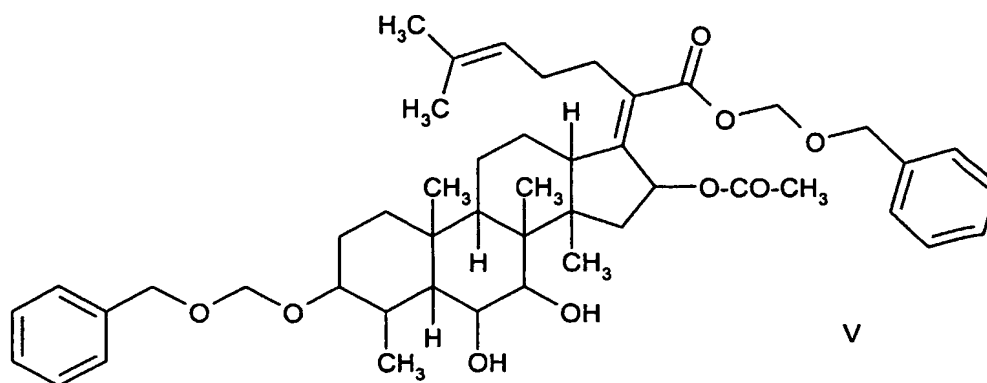
Prot<sub>2</sub> is either other than a protecting group, or is a protecting group, and

5 R'<sub>1</sub> has the meaning of R<sub>1</sub>, as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5, and additionally includes residues as defined in R<sub>1</sub>, wherein functional groups are protected.

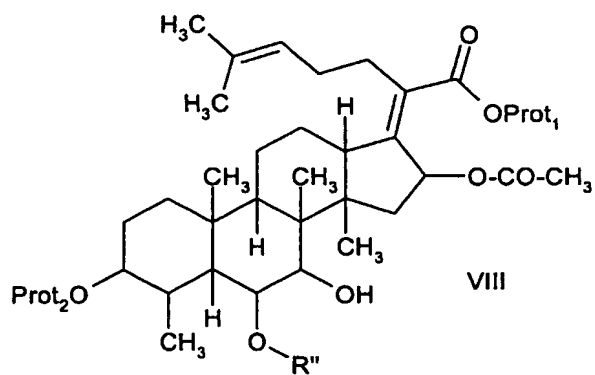
12. A compound of formula



10 or of formula



13. A compound of formula



5        wherein Prot<sub>1</sub> and Prot<sub>2</sub> are as defined in claim 10, and R'' is (C<sub>1-8</sub>)alkyl.

IL/24-Sep-2004